Swajaldhara Yojana in Madhya Pradesh

†905. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal for "Swajaldhara Yojana" to the Central Government in January, 2004; and

(b) by when Government propose to accept this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the Guidelines of Swajaldhara issued in June 2003, powers have been delegated to District Water and Sanitation Committee to sanction projects under Swajaldhara from the funds allocated for the purpose by the Central Government and no approval from the Central Government is required. An allocation of Rs. 966.49 lakhs in respect of Madhya Pradesh for Swajaldhara for the year 2004-05 has been communicated to the State Government.

Allocation of amount to RDRDA, Gujarat

906. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been allocated to Rajkot District Rural Development Agency, Gujarat for Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana, for the year 2004-05;

(b) how many check Dams were to be constructed from the allocation made as per (a) above and amount allocated to each Taluka of Rajkot District; and

(c) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent wages to be given as foodgrains to labourers, has not been given to beneficiaries and has paved its way to black marketeers through fair price shops?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Under the Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY), an amount of Rs. 500.31 lakh has been allocated during the year 2004-05. Out of which, Rs. 375.23 lakhs has been released till date.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Funds allocated to a district under this programme are distributed by District Panchayat/DRDA amongst District Panchayat, Intermediate Panchayats and Village Panchayats in the ratio of 20:30:50. Funds allocated to Intermediate Panchayats are not monitored at the Centre. As regard construction of check dams, it is a permissible item of works to be taken up under this programme and Panchayats concerned can take up such works if the same form part of their Annual Action Plan as per felt need of local people.

(c) Under the SGRY, minimum 5 kg of foodgrains is to be made available per manday as part of the wages. If a State Government wishes to give more than 5 kg. of foodgrains per manday, it may do so within the existing State allocation. However, not more than 75% of the wages can be paid in the form of foodgrains. The State Governments are free to calculate the cost of foodgrains paid as part of wages, at either BPL rate, or APL rate, or anywhere between the two rates. The workers will be paid the balance of wages in cash to ensure the notified Minimum Wages. No such report of irregularities of foodgrains in Rajkot district has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, on receipt of details from the Government of Gujarat, a report in this regard will be laid on the table of the House.

People engaged in agriculture and non-agriculture sector in the rural areas

†907. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minsiter of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people living in rural areas of the country earn their livelihood by working in other areas besides agriculture;

(b) if so, the ratio of people working in non-agriculture areas to the people engaged in rural employment, as per the Government's assessment;

(c) whether the said ratio differs considerably in various States of the country; and

(d) if so, the number of the people engaged in agriculture sector and non-agricultural sector respectively in each State of the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.